

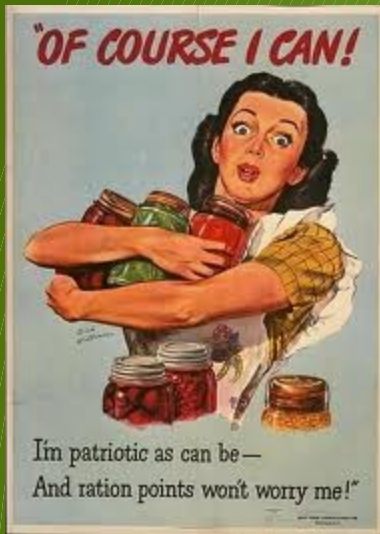


NORTH CAROLINA IN WWII

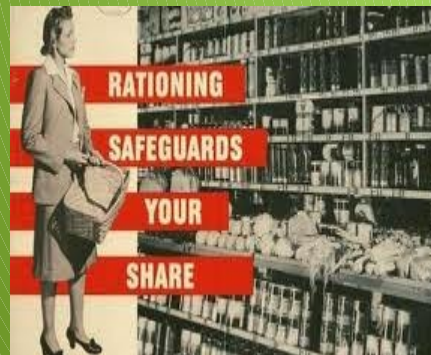
INTRODUCTION

- Who am I?
- Why am I here?



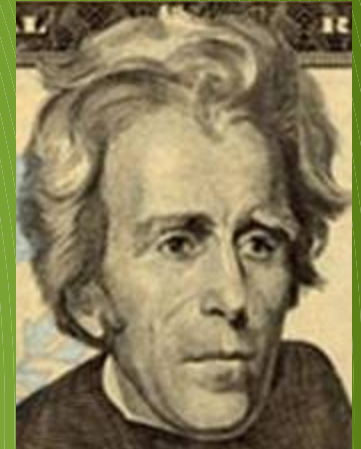


Patriotism during WWII



30th Infantry Division

- What do all these numbers mean?
- Nicknamed “Old Hickory” unit
- National Guard division from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee
- The German enemies referred to them as Roosevelt’s SS Troops because of the consistent and terrific pressure the 30th Infantry division brought on Hitler’s elite SS division.



Andrew
Jackson



D-Day: June 6, 1944



- D-Day was when the Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy and began the effort to liberate Europe from the Nazi occupation.
- It would be up to units like the 30th Infantry Division to move further into France.



Mortain, France and Hill 314

- The 1st Division reached Mortain, France.
- The U.S. forces HAD to get to Hill 314
- Why do hills have names during wartime?
- Why are hills so important?
- Hill
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The 30th Infantry Division gets their orders

- On August 5, 1944, the 30th was ordered to relieve the 1st Division at Mortain ASAP because the 1st Division had to move elsewhere.
- So...in goes the 30th



SURROUNDED

- On Hill 314, a single battalion (roughly 950 Soldiers) of 30th Infantry Division Soldiers were completely surrounded by German
- These brave Soldiers held off the attack for SIX days.
- General Eisenhower himself ordered that Hill



So what happened?

- The Battle of Mortain is considered to be the beginning of the end for the German Army and one of the most significant of World War II.



BE PROUD OF YOUR STATE

- At the end of the war, Eisenhower asked his staff to evaluate the numerous divisions during the war and their contributions to the success of our mission
- The 30th Infantry Division was selected #1.



Dear General Hobbs - 16 March 1946

I was historian of the ETO. General Eisenhower instructed me to draw up a rating sheet on the divisions. This entailed going over the total work of all the more experienced divisions, infantry and armor and report back to him which divisions had performed the most efficient and consistent battle services (this would aid him to recommend which divisions would be put up for division presidential unit citations). We named certain infantry divisions in the first category, the same with armor and we placed others in a second category and yet others in a third category.

The 30th was among five (5) divisions in the first category. We picked the 30th Division Number One (1) in the first category divisions. It was the "combined judgment of the 35 historical officers" who had worked on the records and in the field that the 30th had merited this distinction. It was our finding that the 30th had been outstanding in three operations and that we could consistently recommend it for citation on any one of these three occasions. It was further found that it had in no single instance performed discredibly or weakly when considered against the averages of the Theater and that in no single operation had it carried less than its share of the burden or looked bad when compared with the forces on its flanks.

DIVISIONS RECOMMENDED BY THIS HEADQUARTERS FOR CITATION

1st Infantry Division: Capture of Aachen
2d Armored Division : St Lo Breakthrough
3d Armored Division : Exploitation of Remagen Bridgehead
and encirclement of Ruhr pocket
5th Infantry Division: Drive from Luxembourg across Rhine
30th Infantry Division: Breaching of Siegfried Line
2d Infantry Division: Firm stand at Monschau in Ardennes
90th Infantry Division: Reduction of Metz Fortress
29th Infantry Division: Drive from Siegfried Line to Roer River

1. Prior to his departure from this Theater in November 1945, General Eisenhower gave his tentative approval to recommendations that the foregoing divisions be cited. This was the result of a two hour conference with the following:

General Bull
General Bevans
Colonel S. L. A. Marshal, Theater Historian
Colonel J. L. Ames, Jr., G-1 Awards and Decorations
Major W. D. Neale, G-1 Awards and Decorations

2. The conference was the result of a review by G-1, G-3 and the Theater Historian of such recommendations as had been received in this headquarters. No overall review of the operations of each of the Divisions engaged in the Theater was made, but during the conference the Theater Historian appraised the record of divisions that had distinguished themselves sufficiently to warrant consideration. His comments, subsequently reduced to writing were as follows:

"1. It is the consensus of the officer historians of the Theater based upon their research work of the past eighteen months, that the Divisions which have distinguished themselves for overall service within the Theater may be properly grouped in two categories.

2. In the first category are those divisions whose performance has been consistently strong and meritorious and in particular operations has been outstanding:

30th Infantry Division
1st Infantry Division
5th Infantry Division

3. In the second category are those divisions which have given long, arduous and workmanlike service but have either lacked the luster of those named in the first category or at one

We were especially impressed with the fact that

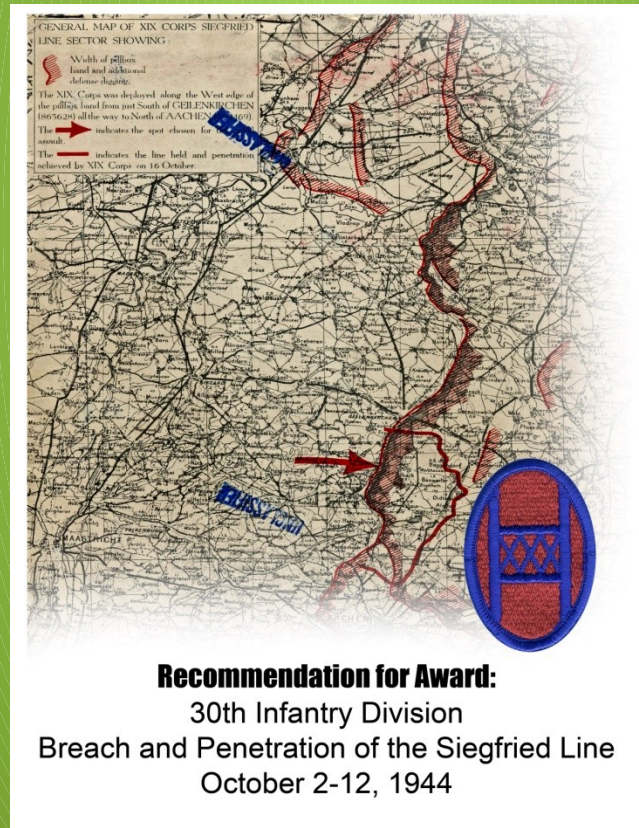


- Six men from the 30th received the Congressional Medal of Honor which is the highest combat deco
- Monument on Hill 314



Legacy of the 30th Infantry Division

Presidential Unit Citation



Директор Института
Сотоней, 6-2-0.

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1. Examination of all historical documents available to the Theater Historian, covering the 30th Infantry Division and all other divisions associated with it in the operation under study, supports the conclusion that during the period from 2 - 12 October 1944, the 30th Division made the main effort in the drive of III Corps through the Siegfried Line and that this divisional effort was successful and commendable in detail.

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VERIFICATION

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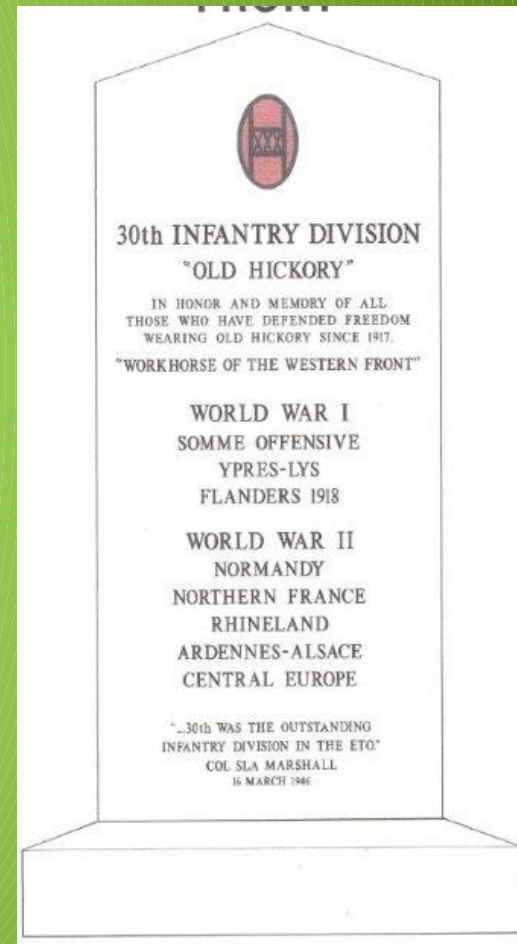
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1* EXAMINATION OF THE PAPERWORK DOCUMENTS

S. L. A. MARSHALL,
Colonel, G.S.C.
Theater Historian.

Monument at the National Infantry Museum in Fort Benning, Georgia

Being dedicated 02 June 2013



Questions?

